

# THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



## Department of Agricultural Resources

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Governor

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Secretary

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Commissioner

### ***PUBLIC HEARINGS: VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PLAN***

Pursuant to the Rights-of-Way Management Regulations (333 CMR 11.00) in order to apply pesticides to control vegetation to maintain Rights-of Ways, the Department of Food and Agriculture must approve a Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) and a Yearly Operational Plan (YOP). The VMP is intended to justify the need to control vegetation, identify target vegetation, describe the intended methods of control, describe methods for identifying sensitive areas, describe operational guidelines for applicators, outline a program of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) designed to reduce the use of herbicides, and describe alternative land use activities. The following community is advised that the **City of Marlborough** proposes to utilize herbicides to treat their Rights-of-Way.

#### **PUBLIC HEARINGS SCHEDULED:**

In accordance with 333 CMR 11.05 the Department of Agricultural Resources will conduct a regional hearing to receive public comment on the proposed Vegetation Management Plan for the City of Marlborough, as submitted by: Mr. Christopher White, General Foremen Forestry, Parks & Cemeteries for the City of Marlborough.

To provide all interested parties an opportunity to comment on the proposed VMP, a public hearing will be held at the following location:

Tuesday, February 25, 2014 from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm

1<sup>st</sup> Floor Meeting Room, City Hall, 140 Main Street, Marlborough, Massachusetts

#### **Plans Available for Review Prior to Public Hearings:**

Section 11.05 (3)(d) of the ROW Management Regulations provide: "At least 21 days prior to the end of the public comment period, the applicant shall send a copy of the proposed VMP to the chief elected official, the Board of Health, and the Conservation Commission in affected communities upon their request." Such request should be made to:

Mr. Christopher White  
Department of Public Works Forestry Division  
135 Neil Street  
Marlborough, MA 01752

The proposed VMP are also available for review at:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/agr/pesticides/vegetation-management-and-yearly-operation-plans.html>

It is also available for review at the Reference Desk of the following public library:

Marlborough Public Library, 35 West Main Street, Marlborough, Massachusetts

### **Written Comments Requested**

The public hearings listed above will give interested parties the opportunity to present data, views or arguments, orally or in writing concerning the proposed VMP. Persons giving testimony are also requested to provide written comments. Written comments in advance of the hearing dates are welcome.

**The Department will accept written testimony concerning the City of Marlborough VMP until the close of business Friday, March 21, 2014**

Commentary should be sent to:

Rights-of -Way Program  
Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources  
Pesticide Bureau  
251 Causeway Street  
Suite 500  
Boston, Massachusetts 02114-2151